

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

MAY 26, 2009

According to a May 11, 2009 report from the Office of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, since the institution of term limits in 1990, the State of California, through legislative action, has reimbursed the County for costs associated with conducting Special Vacancy elections. However, reimbursements are not guaranteed, nor do they cover the full costs of administering these elections and while the cost of conducting elections has increased significantly over time, while State reimbursement has not.

Between 2000 and 2009, fifteen individual elections were conducted to fill legislative and Congressional vacancies. These Special Vacancy elections exacted a cost of nearly 11 million dollars (\$10,679,725). State reimbursement for these costs totaled less than half of the actual election costs (\$4,313,200). Factoring for state reimbursements, net cost to the County still totaled \$7,904,435.

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MOTION

MOLINA _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

ANTONOVICH _____

KNABE _____

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I THEREFORE MOVE, THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Formally go on record supporting full reimbursement of costs associated with the conduct of Special Vacancy elections for state legislative and congressional seats and direct our Sacramento advocates, in conjunction with the County Supervisors Association of California, to pursue legislation toward this end.

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